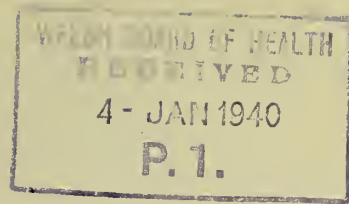


Whitehall



MACHYNLLETH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT for the YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1938,  
(including SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT).

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MEDICAL OFFICER:-

DAN E. DAVIES, M.B., Ch.B.,  
LONDONDERRY TERRACE,  
MACHYNLLETH.

SANITARY INSPECTOR:-

B. BROOKS EVANS, A.R.I.S., M.S.I.A.,  
TOWN HALL,  
MACHYNLLETH.


DISTRICT NURSE:-

MISS B. WOOD, C.M.B.,  
MAENGWYN STREET,  
MACHYNLLETH.

HOSPITALS:-

MACHYNLLETH, CORRIS & DISTRICT HOSPITAL.  
KING EDWARD VII. T.B. HOSPITAL.

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MACHYNLLETH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health,  
including part Report of the Sanitary Inspector,  
for the Year 1938.

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Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Machynlleth Urban Area for the year ended 31st December, 1938.

SECTION A.

Vital Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres) . . . . .	1,183.
Estimated population (1938 Mid-Year) . . . . .	1,807.
Showing a decrease of 19 on the previous Year.	
Number of inhabited houses (end 1938) . . . . .	521.
Rateable Value . . . . .	£7,348.
Product of a Penny Rate . . . . .	£30. 2. 4.

There has been no change in social conditions since the previous Report, and no new industries have been established. The average number of unemployed per week was about 50.

LIVE BIRTHS	{ Legitimate:	Males 12,	Females 14,	Total 26.
	{ Illegitimate:	" 2,	" 0,	" 2.
	{ Total:	" 14,	" 14,	" 28.

STILL BIRTHS	{ Legitimate:	Males 0,	Females 1,	Total 1.
	{ Illegitimate:	" 0,	" 0,	" 0.
	{ Total:	" 0,	" 1,	" 1.

TOTAL BIRTHS (Live and Still)	Males 14,	Females 15,	Total 29.
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Birth Rate (Live Births) per 1,000 estimated population . . . . .	15.44
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Births (Live and Still) . . . . .	34.48
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population . . . . .	0.55

DEATHS:	Males 15,	Females 13,	Total 28.
---------	-----------	-------------	-----------

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population . . . . .	15.51
---	-------

Deaths from Puerperal Causes . . . . .	Nil.
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births . . . . .	Nil.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age . . . . .	3.
Death Rate per 1,000 live births (total) . . . . .	107.1
Death rate under 1 year of age of legitimate infants	
per 1,000 legitimate live births . . . . .	115.4

Death Rate under 1 year of age of illegitimate infants	
per 1,000 illegitimate live births . . . . .	Nil.

Deaths from Measles (all ages) . . . . .	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) . . . . .	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) . . . . .	Nil.

Deaths from Tuberculosis:

(a) Pulmonary: Male 1, Female 0.

(b) Non-Pulmonary: Male 0, Female 1.

Death Rate from Tuberculosis per 1,000 population . . . . .	1.10
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Deaths from Cancer (all ages): Male 1, Females 3, Total .	4.
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Death Rate per 1,000 population . . . . .	2.21
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Deaths from Heart Disease: Males 6, Females 3, Total .	9.
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Death Rate per 1,000 population . . . . .	4.98
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THE HISTORY OF THE  
CITY OF BOSTON

FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT TO THE PRESENT TIME

1780

BY JOHN B. BOSTON

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FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT TO THE PRESENT TIME  
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# COMPARATIVE STATISTICS, 1938.

<u>BIRTH RATE</u>	<u>PER 1,000 POPULATION.</u>
England and Wales . . . . .	15.1
Machynlleth Urban Area . . . . .	15.44

<u>STILL BIRTH RATE</u>	<u>PER 1,000 POPULATION.</u>
England and Wales . . . . .	0.60
Machynlleth Urban Area . . . . .	0.55

<u>DEATH RATE</u>	<u>PER 1,000 POPULATION.</u>
England and Wales . . . . .	11.6
Machynlleth Urban Area . . . . .	15.51

TABLE SHOWING CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Totals.</u>
Influenza . . . . .	1	0	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System . . . . .	1	0	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis . . . . .	0	1	1
Cancer . . . . .	1	3	4
Cerebral Haemorrhage . . . . .	0	0	0
Heart Disease . . . . .	6	3	9
Other Circulatory Diseases . . . . .	2	1	3
Bronchitis . . . . .	0	0	0
Pneumonia . . . . .	1	0	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis . . . . .	0	1	1
Puerperal Sepsis . . . . .	0	0	0
Congenital Debility and Premature Births . . . . .	2	2	4
Other diseases . . . . .	1	2	3
TOTALS . . . . .	15	13	28

TABLE SHOWING DEATHS AT DIFFERENT AGE PERIODS.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Totals.</u>
Under 1 year . . . . .	2	1	3
1 - 10 years . . . . .	0	1	1
10 - 20 " . . . . .	1	2	3
20 - 30 " . . . . .	1	0	1
30 - 40 " . . . . .	0	1	1
40 - 50 " . . . . .	2	1	3
50 - 60 " . . . . .	2	1	3
60 - 70 " . . . . .	2	2	4
70 - 80 " . . . . .	4	4	8
Over 80 years . . . . .	1	0	1
TOTALS . . . . .	15	13	28

NOTES:- The Death Rate for the Area during 1938 shows a fall as compared with the preceding three years, as shown in the following:-

1935 . . . . .	16.2	per 1,000 population;
1936 . . . . .	17.48	" " ;
1937 . . . . .	19.16	" " ;
1938 . . . . .	15.51	" " .

The Birth Rate is maintained this year at the satisfactory level of 15.44 per 1,000 population, as compared with 15.88 per 1,000 in 1937 and 9.28 per 1,000 in 1936.

A sad feature shown by these figures is that, in spite of the low death rate and the comparatively high birth rate, there is a decrease in the population as compared with last year. This is due to the fact that, owing to lack of new industrial development, the younger generation are leaving the Area to seek employment elsewhere.

Heart Disease continues to head the list as the chief cause of death in the Area, accounting for 9 deaths out of a total of 28. This disease is followed by Cancer and Congenital Debility and Premature Births, each accounting for 4 deaths.





## SECTION B.

### General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

<u>PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS:-</u>	One Medical Officer (Part Time). One Sanitary Inspector (Part Time). One District Nurse (Full Time). Names and particulars given on front page.
<u>LABORATORY FACILITIES:-</u>	No change since 1937.
<u>AMBULANCE FACILITIES:-</u>	No change since 1937.
<u>NURSING IN THE HOME:-</u>	The District Nurse carries out the duties of General Nursing as well as Midwifery Services.
<u>TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS:-</u>	These consist of Infant Welfare Clinic, Orthopaedic Clinic and the Tuberculosis Clinic at the King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Hospital.
<u>HOSPITALS:-</u>	The Machynlleth, Corris and District Hospital deals with General and Maternity work, and the King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Hospital for the treatment of Tuberculosis.

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## SECTION C.

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

<u>WATER:-</u>	During the year, the Council took steps to lease the catchment ground at Esgaireira Reservoir to the Forestry Commission, with the two-fold object of planting suitable trees on the ground and of fencing around the catchment area, it being felt that both these objects would be beneficial to the reservoir and the water supply. Two samples of water were submitted for bacteriological analysis, one sample "B" was taken from a feeder to the reservoir and one sample "A" taken at the point of entry into the delivery main supplying the town. The samples were tested for organisms of the Bacillus Coli group, and there was evidence of Coli in 15 c.c. of water from sample "B" but none from sample "A". Confirmatory tests indicated that these organisms were not due to faecal contamination. The analyst stated that he was of the opinion that the water was quite safe for domestic use.
<u>DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE:-</u>	During the year, a special survey was made in order to ascertain the number of houses not supplied with separate water-closets or supplied with obsolete type latrines. A Report on these was presented to the Council, and it was decided to call upon the owners to provide separate water-closets and to replace the obsolete type latrines by modern water-closet suites. As this was late in the year, no action could be taken during 1938.
<u>PUBLIC CLEANSING:-</u>	There has been no change in the practice adopted during 1937.
<u>SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA:-</u>	
Total number of inspections . . . . .	177.
<u>INFECTIOUS DISEASES:-</u>	
Number of houses disinfected by the Council . . . . .	6.
<u>DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS:-</u>	
Number of new Dairies . . . . .	0.
Number of new Cowsheds . . . . .	0.

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DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS (continued):-

Number of persons registered . . . . .	8.
Number of registered places in use and inspected . . . . .	8.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES:-

Number registered or licensed . . . . .	2.
Number in use and inspected . . . . .	1.

CLERICAL WORK:-

Number of informal notices . . . . .	37.
Number of informal notices complied with . . . . .	28.
Number followed by Statutory notices . . . . .	3.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS:-

Number of Statutory notices served . . . . .	3.
Number complied with . . . . .	3.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES:-

Inspection:

(a) Factories:	No factories exist in the Area.	
(b) Workshops:	Number of Inspections . . . . .	4.
	Number of written notices . . . . .	3.
	Number of occupiers prosecuted . . . . .	0.

Defects found in Workshops:

(a) Want of Cleanliness:		
	Number of defects found . . . . .	1.
	Number of defects remedied . . . . .	1.
(b) Defective Sanitary Conveniences:		
	Number of defects found . . . . .	1.
	Number of defects remedied . . . . .	0.
(c) Limewashing required:		
	Number of defects found . . . . .	1.
	Number of defects remedied . . . . .	1.

CAMPING SITES:-

There were no sites in the Area which were used for camping purposes.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS:-

There are no such baths or pools in the Area.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS:-

No action was taken during the year, and no cases were reported.

SCHOOLS:-

During the year, it was found that the water supply to the Junior School was inadequate. The School Authorities gave the matter attention, and the School now has an ample supply.

The obsolete type latrines at the Senior School were included in the Report made to the Council on obsolete-type closets, and the Council decided to request the School Authorities to replace the latrines with proper modern sanitary arrangements. As this was late in the year, no action could be taken during 1938.

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SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:-

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) . . . . .	59.
--	-----



Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year (continued):-

(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose . . . . .	59.
2.	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 . . . . .	39.
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose . . . . .	39.
3.	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation . . . . .	34.
4.	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation . . . . .	16.

Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers . . . . .	5.
---	----

Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:-

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs . . . . .	0.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By owners . . . . .	0.
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners . . . . .	0.
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices (including informal notices) were served requiring defects to be remedied . . . .	48.
(2) Number of these dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By owners . . . . .	4.
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners . . . . .	0.
(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made . . . . .	4.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders . . . . .	0.
(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made . . . . .	0.
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit . . . . .	0.

Housing Act, 1936.- Part IV.- Overcrowding:-

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year . . . . .	23.
(2) Number of families dwelling therein . . . . .	23.
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein . . . . .	150.
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year . . . . .	4.
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year . . . . .	2.
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases . . . . .	10.
(d) Number of cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	0.
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report:-	
It can be assumed that about twelve families will be decrowded when the new State-aided houses now in course of erection are completed	





and occupied by persons displaced from slum and/or overcrowded houses. The great majority of cases of overcrowding are those which were found in the original survey, and the most acute cases will to a large extent be re-housed.

#### Housing Generally:-

During the year the Council commenced the erection of 26 N.P. 3-bedroom houses, 2 N.P. 4-bedroom houses and 1 N.P. 1-bedroom house, the last three houses being in one block and of the "adjustable" or "adaptable" type. The two 4-bedroom houses are required to re-house large families, and the consent of the Ministry has been obtained for these families to be re-housed on the "Overcrowding Standard" and not on the usual "Re-housing Standard." It is possible that the figures given above do not give the Council a clear picture of work done to date in connection with slum clearance; the following figures may give the Council a clearer picture (To be precise, these figures relate to a period ending in April, 1939).

#### Procedure and number of houses dealt with:-

Clearance Area Procedure . . . . .	14.
Section 12, 1936 Act (Closing) Procedure . . . . .	3.
Section 19, 1930 Act (Unfit) Procedure . . . . .	19.
Section 11, 1936 Act (Unfit) Procedure . . . . .	32.
Informal (Unfit) Procedure . . . . .	5.
Total . . . . .	<u>73.</u>

#### Result of action:-

To be demolished . . . . .	20.
Houses not to be re-let and which may be demolished on demand by the Council . . . . .	19.
Houses closed under Section 12 of the 1936 Act . . . . .	2.
Reconditioning Schemes accepted . . . . .	26.
Procedure not complete . . . . .	6.
Total . . . . .	<u>73.</u>

It will be possible to give a more detailed picture in the 1939 Report, by which time the new houses will have been occupied and overcrowding substantially reduced.

A further survey should be made of houses in the Area which should receive attention under "Slum Clearance Procedure".

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#### SECTION E.

##### Inspection and Supervision of Food.

#### MILK SUPPLY:-

During the Year, the Council held a Joint Conference with milk vendors selling milk within the Area, with the view of getting the milk vendors to recondition their cowsheds and dairies to bring them up to modern standards. The vendors undertook to do their best to meet the Council's requirements, and it was decided that they should be informed individually of the requirements.

#### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS:-

A certain amount of diseased meat was found during the year, and this was destroyed. Arrangements have been made for regular inspection of meat slaughtered within the Urban Area. There is only one slaughterhouse in use within the Area, and this supplies two butchers' shops owned by one proprietor. A high standard of cleanliness is observed in this slaughterhouse. There are two more butchers' shops in the Area, but these obtain their meat supplies from the Rural Area of Machynlleth.

#### ADULTERATION, etc:-

The County Council is the Authority responsible for the collection of samples under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

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# The History of the City of New York from its first settlement to the present time by John Smith Esq. of the City of New York in two volumes Vol. I. New York: Printed and Sold by J. Smith at the Sign of the Anchor in the City of New York 1790 1791 1792 1793 1794 1795 1796 1797 1798 1799 1800 1801 1802 1803 1804 1805 1806 1807 1808 1809 1810 1811 1812 1813 1814 1815 1816 1817 1818 1819 1820 1821 1822 1823 1824 1825 1826 1827 1828 1829 1830 1831 1832 1833 1834 1835 1836 1837 1838 1839 1840 1841 1842 1843 1844 1845 1846 1847 1848 1849 1850 1851 1852 1853 1854 1855 1856 1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864 1865 1866 1867 1868 1869 1870 1871 1872 1873 1874 1875 1876 1877 1878 1879 1880 1881 1882 1883 1884 1885 1886 1887 1888 1889 1890 1891 1892 1893 1894 1895 1896 1897 1898 1899 1900 1901 1902 1903 1904 1905 1906 1907 1908 1909 1910 1911 1912 1913 1914 1915 1916 1917 1918 1919 1920 1921 1922 1923 1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937 1938 1939 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1961 1962 1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 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2779 2780 2781 2782 2783 2784 2785 2786 2787 2788 2789 2790 2791 2792 2793 2794 2795 2796 2797 2798 2799 2800 <

# SECTION F.

## Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

Apart from a mild epidemic of Diphtheria, no other infectious diseases were notified during 1938. Ten cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year, and of these three cases occurred in July and seven in December.

The following table gives particulars of the incidence of notifiable diseases:-

Disease.	Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox . . . . .	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever . . . . .	0	0	0
Diphtheria . . . . .	10	0	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid).	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever . . . . .	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia . . . . .	0	0	0
Pneumonia . . . . .	0	0	0
Erysipelas . . . . .	0	0	0
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis . . . . .	0	0	0
Other Diseases Generally Notifiable .	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum . . . . .	0	0	0

## TUBERCULOSIS.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

TABLE OF NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1938.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 -	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 -	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 -	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 -	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
25 -	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	1
35 -	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
45 -	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55 -	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	6	3	0	2	1	0	0	1

The figures given in the above table for New Cases are the highest for the Area for some years. A total of eleven new cases were notified during the year. The death rate, however, remains the same as last year.

I remain,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

DAN E. DAVIES.

Machynlleth,  
November, 1939.

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